

# HAMPTON City Page

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

CITY PAGE

MAY 16

Published on 1st &amp; 3rd Thursdays

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## City office building to commemorate medal of honor recipient

The Ruppert L. Sargent City Administration Building will stand as a tribute to First Lieutenant Ruppert L. Sargent and all Hampton citizens who have distinguished themselves in the service of our country.

The city of Hampton is naming its new city administration building to honor Medal of Honor recipient 1Lt. Sargent. This hero was a true Hampton native — he called Hampton home his entire life. He was born and educated in Hampton and his wife and two children were still living in his Hampton home as he served in the Vietnam War.

Today this hero rests in Hampton National Cemetery and is the only

person born and raised in Hampton to be awarded the Medal of Honor.

A committee is working to raise \$70,000, which will be used for lobby displays (including a bust of Lt.

Sargent), building signage honoring Sargent, military seals and insignias, displays in the Hampton Veterans Conference Room, a plaque honoring all Hampton veterans who have served their country, and the dedication ceremony this fall. Those interested can send their donations to:

City of Hampton Medal of Honor Project, c/o Brian DeProfio, 22 Lincoln Street, Hampton, VA 23669. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law. For information, go to [www.hampton.gov/medalofhonor](http://www.hampton.gov/medalofhonor).

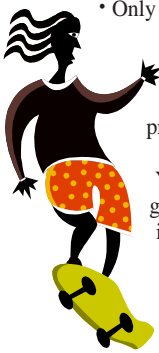


## Youth survey underway

Now you can learn everything you wanted to know about programs for youth in Hampton without having to ask one question. The Hampton Coalition for Youth is conducting a survey of local youth-focused agencies. Some preliminary data is currently available.

### Did you know....?

- 13,001 youth are being served by nonprofit organizations.
- Only 627 of those youth are males between the age of 15-18.
- Most programs report they are building developmental assets, especially with ages 10-14.
- Only 20 organizations have responded that they provide programs to youth in the city of Hampton.



Your participation is critical in making the database inclusive of all programs provided to school age youth in our community. If you provide services to young people of school age (5-18) within the city of Hampton please contact the Coalition for Youth today.

Survey results will be presented to Hampton City Council. For information, contact the Hampton Coalition for Youth, 728-3280 or email: [foryouth@hampton.gov](mailto:foryouth@hampton.gov)

## Memorial Day Holiday Observed



City offices will be closed on Monday, May 27 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. Hampton's Customer Call Center will remain open to answer your

questions — just dial 311 or 727-8311. Curbside collection normally scheduled for May 27 will be collected on Wednesday, May 29.



Hampton recently was selected as a finalist community for this year's All-America City Award, the nation's longest running and most prestigious civic recognition program. The 30 finalists will participate in a final round of the All-America City competition in Kansas City, Missouri, June 13-15.

Ten finalist communities will be named on June 16. Stay tuned for more information in the next edition of City Page.

## Hall of Fame induction

Don't miss the induction ceremony for the Lower Virginia Peninsula Athletic Hall of Fame, Saturday, May 28, 6:30 p.m., Hampton Coliseum.

Eight inductees will be honored and a new honor, "Outstanding Achievement Award," will be announced to recognize achievements that play a significant role in development and promotion of athletes and athletics in the local area.

Tickets are \$20 each and are available from the Coliseum, Visitor Center and two city golf courses. For information call 896-1241.



## How will Crossroads Project create city revenue?

*Continuing series on how the city generates revenues*

### What is the difference between the Crossroads Project and The Power Plant?

Both these projects are designed to attract thousands of new visitors to Hampton, but in different ways.

At the Crossroads Project, located near Hampton Coliseum at Coliseum Drive, the major components will be its 320,000-square-foot **Hampton Roads Convention Center**, a headquarters-quality Embassy Suites hotel, and a combination of specialty retail, restaurants and entertainment venues. Scheduled to be operational in early 2005, it will attract thousands of convention delegates to Hampton from outside the region.

The Power Plant's themed restaurants and unique retail and entertainment locations will make Hampton an even more attractive place for visitors and city residents.

The projects will compliment each other and both are designed to generate significant tax revenues by bringing new dollars into Hampton. This new money will help pay for city services and other initiatives.

### Why does Hampton need the Crossroads Project?

Cities in Virginia find that expenses for providing services often exceed the tax revenues coming in. Bringing in thousands of new visitors to Hampton will generate significant revenue through sales, meals, admissions and lodging taxes.

Coliseum Central is the city's economic engine. A great part of the city's sales,

meals and lodging tax revenues come from this business district. Investing in this area will help assure the overall economic health of our city and will help improve residents' quality of life.

### What is the Crossroads' revenue potential?

By its fifth year of operation, the Crossroads Project is expected to generate nearly \$7 million in annual tax revenue to the city. This is net new revenue, after operating expenses and the bond repayment. In following years, the revenue figure is projected to grow even larger.

The project also is expected to create other new spin-off development. The new Embassy Suites Hotel, which is being built by private development, is just one example.

### What is the city's investment?

Public cost of the project is \$21 million for site development and \$69 million for construction of Hampton Roads Convention Center.

The city is financing this project through a "revenue bond." This means the loan will be repaid exclusively by profits generated by the project. The city has been cautious in any estimates of potential new revenue. Analysis shows the project could perform as much as 88 percent below projected levels and still not dip into the general fund for city services.



Improvements to Hampton Coliseum and costs for the proposed public park along Newmarket Creek will be funded from other city sources.

### What are the next steps?

Marketing of the Hampton Roads Convention Center is already underway, since major conventions typically book locations several years in advance. Sales materials have been developed and are being sent to associations and other groups that would be appropriate clients for the center. Hampton Conventions & Tourism has begun developing a target list of associations and businesses they will be pursuing.

Some initial site work is taking place at this time to test soil stability and other pre-engineering work.

Early next year there will be a groundbreaking ceremony for the Hampton Roads Convention Center.

*This is part of a continuing series on how the city generates revenue. Watch for answers to more questions like these in Hampton City Page. You can also visit the city's Web site at [www.hampton.gov](http://www.hampton.gov).*

## Calendar

### MAY 18

#### MayFest

Join the staff and friends of Sandy Bottom Nature Park for a day-long celebration of the arrival of spring! No admission charge. Park at Bethel High School and ride a free bus to the park. There will be lots of family oriented hikes and tours, a free arts & crafts area for the children to express their creativity, shopping among the arts & crafts vendor's booths, plenty of good food to buy, and many educational exhibits.



Sandy Bottom Nature Park, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 1255 Big Bethel Road, 825-4657.

### MAY 20

#### Youth Commission

Regular meeting, 7 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 728-3285, [youthcom@hampton.gov](mailto:youthcom@hampton.gov).

### MAY 22

#### City Council

Regular meeting, 7:30 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 727-6315. Agendas on Web site: [hampton.gov/council](http://hampton.gov/council). Meetings broadcast live; re-broadcasts May 23 at 10 a.m., and May 25 at 3 p.m. on The City Channel TV-47.

### MAY 28

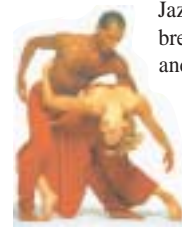
#### Wetlands Board

Regular meeting, 5 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 727-6140.

### JUNE 1 & 2

#### Les Ballets Jazz de Montreal

Exploring and blending techniques as disparate as classical ballet, modern dance and jazz, Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal creates a breathtaking blend of emotion and virtuosity, banishing cliché along the way. Under the direction of Louis Robitaille, this remarkable company interprets the freshest trends in contemporary dance around the globe.



The American Theatre, Friday, 8 p.m., Saturday, 2:30 p.m., 722-ARTS, [www.hampton.gov/arts](http://www.hampton.gov/arts)

### JUNE 5

#### School Board

Regular meeting, 7:30 p.m., Forum at Jones Magnet Middle School, 1819 Nickerson Blvd., 896-8107.

### THROUGH JULY 7

#### Grandview Reunion

Throughout the '70s there was a group of artists living and working in the Grandview area of Hampton. Now, thirty years later, they are coming together from all over the United States to present some work from now and some from then, all work influenced by one special place and time.

Charles H. Taylor Arts Center, 727-1490, [www.hampton.gov/arts](http://www.hampton.gov/arts).

**For more calendar information, go to [www.hampton.gov](http://www.hampton.gov) and click on Calendar.**

## Tune In!

Miss the Neighborhood Parade? Catch it on The City Channel TV-47



Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 7 p.m.  
Tuesday, Thursday - 9 a.m.  
Sat., Sun. - 9 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

To find out about other programs on The City Channel, call 311 or go to [www.hampton.gov](http://www.hampton.gov) and click on What's Hot.